

Remarks/Arguments

1. Claims 1-14 remain under consideration. Applicant has elected Group I, Figs. 1-7, as referenced in the September 14, 2005 Office Action. Applicant does not traverse the restriction. Group II will be the subject of a future divisional application.
2. The Specification was objected to because paragraph [0068] stated "and accumulator 306 to keep cylinder 302 constant length." Insofar as it might be applied to the Specification as amended, the objection is respectfully traversed. Applicant has accepted the suggestion of the Examiner and deleted this phrase from the Specification and replaced it with "and pump 304."
3. The Specification was objected to because paragraph [0072] stated that fluid conduit 326 is coupled to and between valve 320 and valve 314. Insofar as it might be applied to the Specification as amended, the objection is respectfully traversed. Applicant has accepted the suggestion of the Examiner and changed the reference from "valve 320" to "valve 318."
4. The Specification was objected to because paragraph [00102] used the term "these two pressures." Insofar as it might be applied to the Specification as amended, the objection is respectfully traversed. Applicant has accepted the suggestion of the Examiner and deleted the phrase "these two pressures" from the Specification and replaced it with "front and rear."
5. The Specification was objected to because paragraph [00105] "linkage" did not have a reference number. Insofar as it might be applied to the Specification as amended, the objection is respectfully traversed. Applicant has amended the term "linkage" to include the reference number "502."

6. The Specification was objected to because paragraph [00111], line 3 "actuator" did not contain a reference number. Insofar as it might be applied to the Specification as amended, the objection is respectfully traversed. Applicant has amended the term "actuator" to "lock/suspend" actuator "of circuits 300RF, 300LF, 300RR and 300LR." In addition, Applicant has amended "linkage" to include the reference number "600."
7. The Specification was objected to because paragraph [00113] stated "linkage 602" operates "actuators 310, 312." Insofar as it might be applied to the Specification as amended, the objection is respectfully traversed. Applicant has amended the paragraph to state that linkage 602 operates the actuators "of circuits 300RF, 300LF, 300RR and 300LR" and deleted the reference to "actuators 310, 312."
8. In addition, Applicant has amended paragraph [0059] to delete the phrase "Each control arm may have one or more spring means." This phrase was repeated twice in the paragraph and is now listed only once.
9. Claim 1 was objected to because paragraph 6, line 2 stated "and said accumulator to, said." Insofar as it might be applied to the claims as amended, the objection is respectfully traversed. Applicant has accepted the suggestions of the Examiner and amended the Claim to state "and said accumulator, said."
10. Claims 4-7 and 11-14 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended Claims 4, 11, 6 and 13. Insofar as this rejection might be applied to the claims now in the application, it is respectfully traversed.
- Claims 4 and 11 first teach that if first valve 314 has disconnected cylinder 302 from accumulator 306, and the third valve 318 is actuated to raise the suspension, the third valve connects pump 304 to cylinder 302. Secondly,

Claims 4 and 11 teach that if first valve 314 is connecting cylinder 302 to the accumulator 306, and the third valve 318 is actuated to raise the suspension, the third valve 318 is configured to connect pump 304 to cylinder 302 and accumulator 306. However, this second teaching has been amended to reflect that if first valve 314 is connecting cylinder 302 to the accumulator 306, and the third valve 318 is actuated to raise the suspension, the third valve 318 is configured to **disconnect** pump 304 to cylinder 302 and accumulator 306. In this manner, hydraulic fluid under pressure can be forced into cylinder 302 from pump 304 or removed from cylinder 302 and drained into tank 308. (Summary of the Invention Paragraph [0069]). This causes the suspension cylinder 302 to extend or retract and chassis 102 at that suspension cylinder to raise or lower. (Id.) Claims 4 and 11 were also amended to "manually" configure in order to reflect that valve 318 is a manually actuated valve. (Summary of the Invention Paragraph [0071]).

11. Claims 6 and 13 stated that valve 314 "effectively locks said cylinder when it disconnects said accumulator from said cylinder." Applicant has amended claims 6 and 13 to reflect that valve 314 "locks said cylinder when it disconnects said accumulator from said cylinder **and third valve (320) connects pump to cylinder.**" This amendment reflects the scenario when additional load is placed on "locked" cylinder 302 and the increased pressure is communicated to valve 320 which connects the pump to the cylinder. (Summary of the Invention Paragraph [0077]). The use of third valve 320 keeps the cylinder "locked" even as pressure on the cylinder increases.

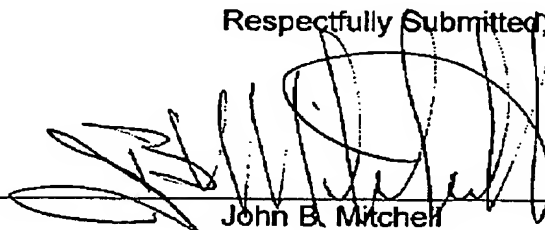
12. Claims 5, 7, 12 and 14 were rejected because they were dependent upon claims 4, 6, 11 and 13. Because claims 4, 6, 11 and 13 have, in Applicant's opinion, been amended to overcome the rejections, dependent claims 5, 7, 12 and 14 should no longer fall under the rejections.

In summary, claims 1, 4, 6, 11 and 13 have been amended, claims 15-20 have been withdrawn, and claims 2, 3, 5, 7-10 and 12 remain in the application. Applicant submits that all objections and rejections have been overcome, and respectfully requests that they be withdrawn and that the application be allowed. No new matter has been added.

Pursuant to currently recommended Patent Office practice, the Examiner is expressly authorized to call Applicant's attorney, collect, at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, if in his judgment disposition of this application could be expedited or if he considers the application ready for final disposition by other than allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: December 5, 2005



John B. Mitchell
Reg. No. 26,485
Customer No. 25,542
Attorney for CNH America LLC
Phone: 717.314.2844